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(S) NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

May 25, 1968

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

NRO REVIEW COMPLETED

Dear Carl:

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This is in response to your memorandum, "Staffing of SOC," [] and is also a follow-up to our recent, more general conversation regarding CIA personnel assignments to the NRO Staff.

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Because of the growing importance of the Satellite Operations Center operations, as well as the fact that a number of personnel shifts are now underway, it seems timely to request you to provide a suitably qualified man to occupy a position of senior responsibility in the SOC. If [] is still available, he may well be your choice for such a post; he would certainly be acceptable to us. I would like to leave the exact title of the position unspecified for the present, with the understanding that it will become either (1) the position of Deputy Director, SOC, if we finally decide that such a position is necessary in the SOC, or (2) the senior technical assignment in the SOC, in which case the incumbent would be assigned the additional duty of Deputy Director.

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As I mentioned in our conference, I have been pleased to observe the work of the CIA-furnished NRO Staff members who are already on board. I believe that in most cases we have done reasonably well in matching the man to the job, particularly considering the unusual nature of NRO operations and staff activities. There is one case where the match has not been as successful as we would have liked and I would say the responsibility lies entirely with us. I am referring to [] a capable, cooperative employee who came to us about 18 months ago in the expectation--which we shared--of working as a programmer. Shortly after his arrival, we decided it would be

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best to continue to keep the totality of financial management in [] office. [] has responded very well to this change in plan, eagerly sharing other staff duties and assignments; however, I believe we are probably doing him a professional disservice in continuing to neglect his primary interests and skills.

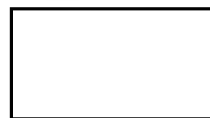
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We are quite willing to retain [] for the remainder of his normal tour, if you desire us to do so. I do suggest, however, that you review his situation with him and take that action which works to the most benefit for [] and the CIA.

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Sincerely,



Alexander H. Flax

NRO 25X1

Mr. Carl E. Duckett
Director
CIA Reconnaissance Programs

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